United Nations A/C.6/57/L.3/Rev.1

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
18 October 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session
Sixth Committee
Agenda item 162
International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Georgia, Grenada, Honduras, Italy, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain, Suriname, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, United States of America and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

International convention against human cloning

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights,[1] adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 11 November 1997, and in particular article 11 thereof, which states that practices which are contrary to human dignity, such as the reproductive cloning of human beings, shall not be permitted,

Recalling also its resolution 53/152 of 9 December 1998, by which it endorsed the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights,

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/71 of 25 April 2001, entitled "Human rights and bioethics",[2] adopted at the fifty-seventh session of the Commission,

Mindful of the importance of the development of the life sciences for the benefit of mankind with full respect for the integrity and dignity of the human being,

Mindful also that certain practices pose potential dangers to the integrity and dignity of the individual,

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[1] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-ninth Session*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, resolution 16.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

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Concerned at recently disclosed information on research into and attempts at the creation of human beings through cloning processes,

Determined to prevent as a matter of urgency such an attack on the human dignity of the individual,

Conscious of widespread preoccupations that the human body and its parts should not, as such, give rise to financial gain,

Recalling its resolution 56/93 of 12 December 2001, by which it decided to establish an Ad Hoc Committee, open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, for the purpose of considering the elaboration of an international convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings,

Determined to adopt permanent and provisional measures, as appropriate, to prevent potential dangers to the human dignity of the individual,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on an International Convention against the Reproductive Cloning of Human Beings on its work from 25 February to 1 March 2002;[3]

2. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to be reconvened from 24 March to 4 April 2003 and prepare, as a matter of urgency, the draft text of an international convention against human cloning, bearing in mind that it will not prohibit the use of nuclear transfer or other cloning techniques to produce DNA molecules, organs, plants, tissues, cells other than human embryos or animals other than humans, and recommends that the work continue during the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly from 29 September to 3 October 2003 within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee;

3. *Also requests* the Ad Hoc Committee, in developing the draft convention, to consider, inter alia, the following indicative elements:

(a) Scope;

(b) Definitions;

(c) The objective;

(d) Implementation;

(e) Preventive measures;

(f) Jurisdiction;

(g) Promotion and strengthening of international cooperation;

(h) Exchange of information;

(i) Mechanisms for monitoring implementation;

4. *Solemnly declares* that, pending the adoption of an international convention against human cloning, States shall not permit any research, experiment, development or application in their territories or areas under their jurisdiction or control of any technique aimed at human cloning;

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[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 51* (A/57/51).

5. *Calls upon* States to adopt such measures as may be necessary to prohibit those techniques of genetic engineering that may have adverse consequences on the respect for human dignity;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work;

7. *Invites* the Ad Hoc Committee to take into consideration the contributions of United Nations agencies and competent international organizations, as well as other relevant bodies of international opinion in the process of negotiations;

8. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "International convention against human cloning".